

The  
Alcester Grammar



School Record

Autumn 1978

# Alcester Grammar School Record

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AUTUMN 1978

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## NOTES AND NEWS

### Autumn 1977

'Start as you mean to carry on.' This the new school year certainly did with a very busy and productive Autumn term.

Although many of us still learn French the hard way, some members of the second form obtained more practical experience during their visit to Vallet under the watchful eyes of Mrs. Hughes and Miss Morgan. This was the first party from A.G.S. to visit Alcester's twin town and we look forward to participating in many more similar trips in the future.

The search for knowledge also led many other members of the school, particularly sixth-formers, beyond the boundaries of the school. Marle Hall came under invasion from the lower sixth Biology group under the enthusiastic leadership of Dr. Preston-Mafham. Other excursions included visits to Aston University for pupils to attend lectures on subjects such as Economics and Chemistry. Visits were also made to Wolverhampton to see 'Hamlet' and to Warwick University to see a production of 'Ophelia,' a modern version of Shakespeare's well-known tragedy. The normal school curriculum was also extended by lecturers visiting the school. A particularly memorable occasion (especially for the more squeamish amongst us!) was a lecture on first-aid and a demonstration of simulated injuries given by the Royal Army Medical Corps. Perhaps this lecture was the inspiration of the new and unusual craze that developed within the school during the Autumn term and carried on throughout the Spring: hopping around on crutches. In fact it became quite the 'in thing' (obviously some boys realised that it was a sure way of heading the dinner queue) and Mr. Cowell once again showed his sportsmanship by joining in the fun!

Events arranged by the Parents' Association during the term took the form of the annual Barn Dance and a coffee morning. Both were highly successful and set the scene for a year of fund-raising in aid of the mini-bus appeal. The term ended amidst Christmas festivities,

the highlight once again being the colourful 'non-uniform' day, coinciding with the first-form party, organised (well, even chaos takes some organisation, doesn't it?) by the upper sixth, and the annual carol service at St. Nicholas' Church.

### **SPRING TERM 1978**

The Spring term once again saw members of the school engaged in a host of activities. During the first few weeks of the term the rest of the school watched in amusement while the lower sixth enthusiastically set to work to decorate their common room, orange being predominant in the colour scheme! January also took the sixth-form Geography group on a field course at Marle Hall, guided by the experienced hands of Mr. Petherbridge. The wintry conditions the group found in North Wales were not very different from those sought by pupils who spent their half term skiing in Italy, accompanied by Mr. Micklethwaite, Mr. Macdonald, Mrs. Bonham and Mrs. Matthews. Other members of the school, together with Mr. Cowell and Miss Morgan, temporarily quenched their thirst for adventure during an Eastern Mediterranean Cruise on the S.S. Uganda—proving once more that education can be fun! The mad month of March ended with an invasion of Holland by an A.G.S. hockey team. This proved to be an unforgettable experience (particularly for the Dutch!).

The school play, 'Spring and Port Wine,' which had to be postponed at Christmas, due to the popularity of crutches, was finally produced in March and the result was well worth waiting for. Speech Day was held in April and was once again very well attended. Other events during the term included the showing of the World Cup Film 1966, and numerous lectures ranging from the subject of beauty and skin care to Amnesty International.

The Parents' Association held their annual supper dance at the beginning of the term in the Greig Hall and the profit of £190 was a record for this event. There was no time for fools on April 1st when fund-raising efforts were continued with a morning of sponsored events, very well supported by parents, but success was also dependent on the enthusiasm of junior members of the school. The term ended in country style with a Barn Dance in the school hall, mainly for the younger pupils.

### **SUMMER TERM 1978**

This was a very busy term, as usual, for both staff and pupils. In May, the fourth form descended on an unsuspecting Marle Hall for a week of adventure and field study activities. The school took on a colourful appearance for the 'non-uniform' day when pupils contributed to the mini-bus fund for the privilege of wearing a wide range of fashions. On the 20th May, The Parents' Association held their annual Spring Fayre. As well as the usual stalls and side shows, attractions included such things as model car racing, bowling for a pig, a model reconstruction of the Battle of Borodino, and a chance to get rid of any inhibitions by smashing crockery! Entertainment

was also provided by the Alcester Junior Silver Band. The Fayre was a tremendous success and a record total of £944 was raised for the mini-bus fund. The P.A. also held a Supper Dance in the Greig Hall on July 14th.

Although the end of June brought the completion of the exam period, this only served to quicken the pace of activities within the school. On the 5th July the first form went to the Forest of Dean to visit Goodrich Castle and the Clearwell Caves, and on the 6th July the second and third forms visited the Royal Show while some members of the fourth form went in search of culture at Warwick Castle. On July 12th the school was entertained by the South Warwickshire Wind Band when they performed in the hall.

Sports Day was held on the field on July 13th and, as a quick glance at the figures for ice-cream sales shows, the prayers of the P.E. staff were answered and it was the warmest day for many weeks. The last few days of term were taken up with house matches, tennis finals and preparations for the Summer Concert, which took place on July 19th. Inspired performances were given by pupils of all ages, ably directed by Mr. Brinson. This year saw the introduction of First Aid in the topics studied by members of the sixth form in Liberal Studies lessons, and on July 20th, after enthusiastic instruction from Mrs. Ince, eight pupils successfully obtained the Junior Red Cross Certificate.

The school year was brought to a close in a traditional way with a hearty rendering of 'Jerusalem' at the final assembly.

### **SPEECH DAY, 1978**

Speech Day was held on 7th April, 1978: The proceedings began with introductory entertainment provided by a group of school musicians playing the 'Minuet from the Royal Fireworks music' by Handel, and 'Allegro from Sonata for Trumpet' by Purcell.

The introduction by the Chairman of the Governors, Mr. A. E. Tubbs, was followed by the Headmaster's Report. Mr. Turner expressed his gratitude and pride for what had been undertaken and achieved during 1977, both in the classroom and outside. Finally, at the end of a year of reorganisation proposals and discussion, the headmaster stressed the dangers if insufficient time and money were given to ensure real success.

The prizes and awards were presented by Dr. John Gittus, Research Manager of the U.K. Atomic Energy Research Group and a former pupil of Alcester Grammar School. Dr. Gittus then addressed the school, old scholars and parents in a very entertaining and informative speech which was appreciated by all present. A vote of thanks was proposed by Dr. P. J. Emerson, a Governor of the School, and seconded by Head Boy, Timothy Drew.

The prizes and awards were presented as follows:

First Year: Jonathan Cartledge, Peter Hartland, John Matthews, Dawn Goomber.

Second Year: David Apsley, Andrew Boston, Julia Hall.

Third Year: Anne Griffiths, Russell Buxton, Graham Hemming, David Hemingway.

Fourth Year: Alice Emerson, Susan Wright, Dawn Summersby, Anne Hunt.

Fifth Year: Stephen Dyer, Clare Sawyer, Stephen McCarthy, David Robertson, David Shore.

Lower Sixth: Jan Read, Colin Foster, Sylvia Ashton, Mary Emerson, Nigel Noaks, Christine Catherall.

Upper Sixth: French and German—Claire Duffin; Economics—Angela Murphy; Geography (Ernest Walker Prize)—John Seeney; History—Gail Onions; Mathematics—Timothy Baldwin; Physics—Anne Maw; Chemistry—Roger Green; Biology—Alison Phillips; Art—Michelle Drew; Home Economics—Nicola Downes; Engineering Drawing—Christopher Blizard.

Service to the School—David Peters, Pauline Ashton.

Bell Cup (Mathematics)—Timothy Baldwin.

Mason Cup (best Ordinary Level results)—Stephen Dyer.

Spencer Cup (best Advanced Level results)—Roger Green.

## GAMES

### THIRD-YEAR HOCKEY TEAM

The school third-year hockey team has improved tremendously since last year when, as a second-year team, they won only one match. Most credit must be awarded to the newest member of the team, Benedicte Foster, who seems to dominate the field during a match.

In several matches the goal-keeper, Claire Gilroy, has become extremely bored, when at the end of a stimulating game it was realised that she had not even kicked the ball.

When playing a match against Abbey High the team were astonished to find their opposition much bigger than they were. At half-time, to boost their morale, they were told by Mrs. Bonham that they were playing against a fourth-year team. At the end they were losing by five goals to one. You might even see the third-year hockey team at Wembley playing for England!

### RUGBY—1st XV

After 12 of last year's regular 1st XV left the school, including the entire pack, this season was essentially one of rebuilding a stronger side for the next two or three seasons.

Karen Hooker (3M).

A young side, consisting mainly of V and Lower VI pupils, at times found it difficult to cope with such a strong fixture list, made up of larger schools which nearly always fielded more experienced and physically larger sides.

However, the season started well, and due to a great deal of enthusiasm and determination, several notable victories were achieved.

Results inevitably suffered during the long absence of Mr. Cowell, despite the hard work of Bob Cox, who coached all the rugby teams, not just the 1st XV, often at a great deal of inconvenience to himself. The whole team is extremely grateful to him, and we wish him well in the future.

On Boxing Day a "past and present" school team was narrowly defeated by a strong Alcester Arrows side, in an exciting match at Alcester R.F.C.

The regular side was D. Harrison, J. Toseland (Captain), T. Drew, M. Burlton, A. Richards, D. Allen, N. Raspin, P. Bromwich, D. Gravestock, D. Peters (Vice-Captain), H. Rowley, N. Tadd, D. Smart, D. Shore, J. Hallam. Reserves: S. McCarthy, G. Dunbar.

Colours were awarded to M. Burlton, T. Drew, D. Allen, J. Toseland, N. Raspin, and D. Harrison and G. Dunbar.

J. Toseland (Captain).

### Results—1st XV

	Home		Away
Evesham High	W 14—8	Banbury	W 25—8
Kenilworth	L 9—22	Abbey H. S.	L 4—8
North Bromsgrove	W 12—0	Bromsgrove	L 4—10
South Bromsgrove	D 4—4	Evesham H.S.	L 18—21
Abbey H.S.	L 0—10	K.E.S. Stratford	L 19—32
Droitwich	W 38—8	Prince Henry's	L 0—32
Prince Henry's	L 0—52	Old Swinford	L 9—16
		South Bromsgrove	L 4—10
		Kenilworth	L 0—20

	2nd XV	U15	U14	U13	U12
Abbey H.S			L 12—30		
Bromsgrove	L 12—18				
N. Bromsgrove		L 0—68	L 4—28		
S. Bromsgrove			L 28—30		
Evesham H.S.		L 9—79	L 4—38		
Greville	W 26—4		W 56—0	L 0—24	L 4—16
Kenilworth		L 3—48	W 32—4	L 0—30	
KES Stratford			L 12—30	L 4—30	
Old Swinford	L 12—18				
Prince Henry's	L 12—24				
Stratford H.S.			W 44—4	L 18—46	

The U14's also won a sevens tournament with Henley, Stratford, Bidford and Greville.

### FOOTBALL

This year's football season was a disheartening one for most of our teams, only the 1st XI and U12 teams remaining unbeaten—and they only played three matches between them!

## Results

	1st XI	U15	U14	U13	U12
Bidford H.S.		W 5—4	L 1—5		D 1—1
Evesham College	W 3—2				
Evesham H.S.		L 1—12			
	and	L 0—10	L 0—8		
Greville		L 1—5	L 1—5	L 2—4	
Henley H.S.			L 0—3		
St. Benedict's		L 4—7	L 1—8	D 4—4	W 11—1
Stratford H.S.		L 1—8		D 2—2	

## CRICKET

The 1st XI were unfortunately able to play only two matches this season, and as usual a number of the lower school matches were affected by the weather. Both first-team matches were against Evesham teams, the first against the High School and won by five wickets—an easier match than expected, thanks to a quick thirty by 'hard-hitting' Martyn Langston. The second match, at Prince Henry's High School, was not as successful. The defeat by sixty runs was mainly due to some slack bowling, but some extremely good batting performances, especially by our younger players, bodes well for future results.

The inter-house match series was won by Wells, beating Spencer by 6 wickets and Newport by 4 wickets. Wells must be grateful to Anthony Richards, who had scores of 35 and 63 respectively.

T. J. Ratledge (Captain).

Results:	Team	Played	Won	Lost
	<b>1st XI</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>
	<b>U15 XI</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>
	<b>U14 XI</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>2</b>
	<b>U13 XI</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>
	<b>U12 XI</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>

## ATHLETICS

A relays meeting was held at Alcester at the beginning of the season between first, second, third and fourth year teams. We won the meeting, followed by St. Benedict's, Bidford and Greville in 2nd, 3rd and 4th places.

The following pupils represented South Warwickshire in the Warwickshire Sports:

Senior: C. Hood (1,500m.).

Intermediate: N. Hood (Discus and 400m.), A. Matthews (Triple Jump).

Junior: G. Hickin (100m.), A. Shorey (400m.), D. Bullingham (Discus).

Minor: A. Reeves (Shot Putt), T. Hood (800m.), K. Hancocks (Discus).

## TENNIS

For the first time a Senior Boys' house tennis competition was held this year. It consisted of two players from each house playing a singles each and joining up for a doubles.

Those who took part enjoyed the games very much with many close encounters. The eventual winners were Wells, with Spencer narrowly edging out Newport for second place.

Martyn Langston (L6).

Results: Wells v. Spencer, 24—6; Wells v. Newport, 23—18; Newport v. Spencer 10—25. First, Wells (47); 2nd, Spencer (31); 3rd, Newport (28).

### Girls' Results:

Senior Singles Cup. Helen Thompson beat Jane Whinn 6—1, 6—4.

Senior Doubles. Jane Whinn and Mandy Allen beat Anne Sullivan and Jenny Fraser 3—6, 6—1, 6—1.

Junior Doubles. Rachel Baker and Lisa Court beat Jackie Collison and Nicola Hancox 8—6, 4—6, 8—6.

## MIXED ROUNDERS

House results: Newport lost 2, Spencer lost 1 and won 1, Wells won 2.

## SENIOR "SUPERSTARS" CONTEST

By the time the Sports took place this year all the upper sixth and many of the fifth formers had left the school on completion of their public examinations. Consequently, it was not possible to hold the senior sports events as in previous years. However, this gave an opportunity for new ideas to be tested in the form of a "Superstars" contest. As a direct result of the extra work put in by Mr. Cowell and Mrs. Bonham and the enthusiasm of the lower sixth form (especially Martyn Langston) it was a great success.

Each house nominated a minimum of two boys and two girls for each event. The competitor took part in three events from the following: badminton, table tennis, archery, discus throwing, gymnastics (which involved squat-thrusts and netball shooting for the girls and pull-ups for the boys) and tennis. The results were as follows:

	Boys	Girls	Total
Newport	24 points	46 points	70 points
Spencer	39 points	10 points	49 points
Wells	53 points	37 points	90 points

Winners of individual titles were as follows:

Boys—Martyn Langston, 18 points (maximum).

Girls—Anne Hunt and Deborah Rugg, 14 points each.



## CROSS COUNTRY

This year the South Warwickshire Cross Country Race was held at our school. The Minor Boys' team came second, with Tim Hood 1st, Richard Devey 3rd and Stephen Molloy 4th. In the Junior Boys Stephen Clark finished 2nd. The Intermediate Boys was won by our team with Nigel Hood coming 1st.

An inter-area event for Minor Boys was also staged here and four of our boys represented South Warwickshire.

In the Warwickshire Senior Boys event Chris Hood was 2nd, and Chris and Colin Partridge both represented Warwickshire in the English Schools Race.

In the House cross-country race, Andrew Shorey won the junior event followed by Richard Horton and Stephen Clark. In the senior race Chris Hood won with Colin Partridge 2nd and Nigel Hood 3rd. The Cross Country Cup was won by Spencer House.

Timothy Hood (1M).

## ATHLETIC SPORTS 1978

Sports Day was held on Thursday, July 13th, and trophies were presented immediately after the events by Mr. A. J. Gwinnett, one of the school governors and who attended his first Sports Day as a pupil here fifty-two years ago.

Junior Victrix Ludorum Cup — Rosalind Jordan.

Junior Victor Ludorum Cup — Simon Rigby.

Senior Victrix Ludorum Cup — Elizabeth McCarthy.

Senior Victor Ludorum Cup — Nigel Hood.

John Clark Cup for 1,500 metres — Colin Partridge.

Girls' Sports Cup — Newport.

Boys' Sports Cup — Wells.

Sports Shield — Newport.

\* denotes a new record.

### Intermediate Girls (3rd and 4th Forms)

4th year 100m	1. S. Edwards (S); 2. J. Read (N); 3. J. Hasson (S).
3rd year 100m	1. H. Edwards (N); 2. J. McCarthy (S); 3. S. Wright (W).
3rd & 4th 200m	1. E. McCarthy (S); 2. S. Edwards (S); 3. J. Amor (N).
High Jump	1. E. McCarthy (S); 2. B. Foster (W); 3. J. McCarthy (S).
Long Jump	1. E. McCarthy (S); 2. M. Hancox (N); 3. J. Copping (N).
Discus	1. C. Gilroy (S); 2. J. Hasson (S); 3. K. Lewis (W).
Rounders Ball	1. J. Tuplin (S); 2. B. Foster (W); 3. C. Gilroy (S).
Javelin	1. S. Holt (S); 2. J. McCarthy (S); 3. J. Amor (N).
Relay	1. Spencer; 2. Newport; 3. Wells.

### Junior Girls (1st and 2nd Forms)

2nd year 100m	1. S. Sidaway (S); 2. R. Jordan (N); 3. R. Baker (S).
1st year 100m	1. L. Portman (W); 2. S. Gill (W); 3. J. Woodrow (N).
200m	1. R. Baker (S); 2. A. Thompson (W); 3. S. Sidaway (S).
High Jump	1. N. Vale (S); 2. J. Beddows (S); 3. S. Gill (W).
Long Jump	1. J. Woodrow (N); 2. S. Sidaway (S); 3. K. Watton (N).
Discus	1. J. Woodrow (N) 19.70m*; 2. S. Hughes (N)*; 3. N. Wells (W)*.
Rounders Ball	1. R. Jordan (N); 2. R. Baker (S); 3. K. Lewis-Jones (N).

- Javelin 1. R. Jordan (N) 28.00m\*; 2. J. Hawkes (N); 3. L. Portman (W).  
 Relay 1. Spencer; 2. Newport; 3. Wells.

### Senior Boys

- 5th & 6th year 1500m 1. C. Partridge (N); 2. N. Tadd (N); 3. W. Harding (W).

### Intermediate Boys

- 4th year 100m 1. J. Barnes (S); joint 2. A. Matthews (N) and S. Butler (S).  
 3rd year 100m 1. G. Hickin (S); 2. A. Shorey (W); 3. P. Bayley (S).  
 200m 1. D. Broderick (N); 2. G. Hemming (W).  
 400m 1. J. Barnes (S); 2. A. Shorey (W); 3. D. Broderick (N).  
 800m 1. N. Hood (S) 2min. 15.4sec.\*; 2. N. Edkins (W); 3. S. Clarke (N).  
 1500m 1. N. Hood (S); 2. G. Hemming (W); 3. J. Wain (N).  
 High Jump 1. A. Blundell (W); 2. I. Sinclair (N); 3. P. Bailey (S).  
 Long Jump 1. G. Hickin (S); 2. P. Foster (S); 3. C. Ashton (W).  
 Triple Jump 1. A. Matthews (N); 2. M. Burton (N); 3. S. Wedgbury (W).  
 Discus 1. N. Hood (S); 2. R. Walters (N); 3. I. Sinclair (N).  
 Javelin 1. J. Barnes (S); 2. G. Hickin (S); 3. T. Reed (W).  
 Shot 1. T. Reed (W); 2. C. Sheridan (N); 3. A. Blundell (W).  
 Relay 1. Spencer; 2. Newport; 3. Wells.

### Junior Boys

- 2nd year 100m 1. A. Young (S); 2. S. Biffin (W); 3. G. Danks (W).  
 1st year 100m Equal 1. D. Harris (N) and A. Knight (S); 3. P. Ratcliffe (W).  
 200m 1. S. Rigby (N); 2. S. Wheeldon (N).  
 400m 1. S. Shirley (W); 2. A. Young (S); 3. S. Rigby (N).  
 800m 1. R. Devey (N); 2. T. Hood (S); 3. S. Thomas (W).  
 1500m 1. T. Hood (S); 2. R. Devey (N); 3. S. Thomas (W).  
 High Jump 1. M. Crane (W); 2. J. Matthews (N); 3. A. Knight (S).  
 Long Jump 1. G. Danks (W); 2. S. Biffin (W); 3. R. Devey (N).  
 Triple Jump 1. S. Rigby (N); 2. J. Cartledge (N).  
 Discus 1. K. Hancocks (W); 2. B. Ransley (W); 3. D. Taylor (N).  
 Javelin 1. S. Thomas (W); 2. N. Payne (W); 3. A. Walker (S).  
 Shot 1. S. Shirley (W); 2. A. Roeves (W); 3. A. Young (S).  
 Relay 1. Wells; 2. Spencer; 3. Newport.

### METALWORK AND WOODWORK CLUBS

The metalwork and woodwork clubs continued this year under the guidance of Mr. Maund. During Wednesday lunchtimes, members of the woodwork club have created a variety of useful items ranging from simple boxes to intricate models and chess boards.

The metalwork club meets during Tuesday lunchtimes and after school on Mondays. Again a wide variety of articles was constructed, examples being primitive jewellery (which is made mainly by girls) and steam engines.

### ART CLUB

Meetings of the Art Club were held throughout the year during Thursday lunch hours. Members paid two pence to try their hand at different crafts including silhouettes, embroidery (even the boys had a go), mosaics, dot pictures and Christmas crackers. We

discovered the occasional Leonardo Da Vinci, but those of us who are not quite so talented were helped by sixth-form Art pupils, Kathryn Bird, Amanda Brewin and Jane Williams. Attendance has dwindled during the summer months, but the club is still kept very much alive by a few loyal members. Our thanks must also go to Miss Simm and Mrs. Holmes for their support.

Alastair Roeves (1M).

## **THE ELECTRONICS CLUB**

The electronics club meets every Monday and this year more beginners, boys and girls, have come to the meeting than ever before. The usual array of radios, tape recorders and calculators have been repaired. Various pieces of equipment have been built from scratch—e.g., a metronome for the music room, biology department equipment and sundry amplifiers and other audio projects.

We are sorry to see Nigel Noaks, the founder member of the club, leave the school taking much valuable knowledge with him.

Matthew Goodman (L6S).

## **CANOE CLUB**

Members of the school canoe club have recently started competing in slaloms. So far, pupils have entered three slaloms with pleasing results.

A slalom is a race, against the clock, through several gates (a gate being two vertical poles, suspended a few inches above the water, between which the competitor must pass). Penalty points are incurred if the gates are hit. The paddler with the fastest time and least points wins.

The first slalom attended was at Shepperton, where Dave Gravestock came 24th out of a field of 100—an admirable result in his first competition.

A few weeks later, Dave Gravestock, Dave Peters and Peter Bromwich travelled to a slalom at Chester. On a very difficult course, Dave Peters, in his first slalom, achieved an excellent run to place him in 5th position, which was good enough to promote him from novice to division four. Dave Gravestock was 26th and Peter Bromwich came 33rd. There were over 75 competitors in this event.

A fortnight later, D.G. and P.B. and an ex-pupil, Brett Freeman, took part in a slalom at Cookham. There were well over 100 entrants and Dave Gravestock did very well to get a place, thus earning himself promotion to division four. Brett Freeman narrowly missed promotion and P. Bromwich was several places behind him.

On June 24th P. Bromwich, Mark Greenaway and James Emerson made up a team and took part in a canoe competition at Bidford Carnival. The team won the event and even the slowest time achieved was faster than any other of the teams' fastest times. P. Bromwich attained the fastest individual time.

The club, led by Mr. Cowell and Mrs. Albon, has also visited Bidford-on-Avon on several occasions, and Ragley Hall Lake has been used once. These trips have been well attended by both junior and senior pupils and enjoyed by all.

Peter Bromwich (5S).

### **JUNIOR BRIDGE CLUB**

Junior Bridge Club meet every Friday lunch-time in room four. Though unpopular at first, more people came to learn how to play. The club was mostly made up of first and second year girls (with a few boys to stop the girls from cheating!).

We would all like to thank Mrs. Hughes, Graham Dunbar, Mandy Allen and Claire Brewer for giving up their lunch-times and teaching us how to play.

Alastair Reeves (1M).

### **THE SCHOOL PLAY: SPRING AND PORT WINE**

For 1977 the play chosen for the annual school production was one of Bill Naughton's works: the story of a Lancashire family undergoing a period of conflict and rebellion. The performance certainly had its setbacks—it unfortunately had to be postponed until March 1978 after one of the actors suffered a bad leg injury—but the audience would no doubt agree that Stephen Dyer's acting was well worth waiting for! In fact Stephen and his 'stooge,' David Shore, breezed their way through the play like a regular comedy duo in the shape of Harold and Wilfred Crompton. Stephen Dyer clearly revelled in this part, employing perfect timing and delivery of plaintive lines such as this, in reference to his gruff and overbearing father: "Mum, did you have to marry him?"

David Shore replied to this highly amusing performance with an equally humorous rendering of the younger brother and gave the impression of playing the piano quite brilliantly on several occasions.

The other member of the Crompton family was admirably handled by Jonathan Hallam, who cleverly captured the obsessive righteousness of the father figure who dominated the household and who before seeing the error of his ways, terrorised his children and crushed the spirit of his wife. This haggard housewife was played by Fiona Tompkins, who took the difficult role of Mrs. Crompton in her stride, although the scenes of middle-age despair were difficult to interpret. Both actors must be commended on their portrayal of these demanding parts.

The two daughters of the house, Florence and Hilda, were highly successful, with Anne Griffiths giving a sympathetic and convincing performance of the rather staid schoolma'am—in complete contrast to Hilda, the pretty and spirited younger girl, so well acted by Elizabeth McCarthy. Florence's fiancé, Arthur, venturing into the Crompton household at his peril, was played by Stephen McCarthy, who gave a good performance as the loving suitor.

Lastly in this catalogue of characters one cannot fail to mention Kay Edward's excellent portrayal of Betsy Jane—the ultimate in noisy neighbours. Kay played her part so well that one tended to begin to feel sorry for the people living next door to her!

Due thanks must of course go to all who worked so hard out of the limelight. Nigel Noaks managed the stage beautifully, whilst the lower sixth form boys Hugh Rowley, Paul Hancox, Colin Partridge, Michael Blizzard, Digby Smart, Stephen Chambers and John Greenaway succeeded in creating a set which evoked the atmosphere of a Lancashire family home. Congratulations also go to the make-up girls: Alison Lancaster, Susan Wright, Melanie Green, Trudy Stanley, Mrs. L. Davis, Jayne Fox and Julie Dodsworth.

Members of staff also deserve thanks for their share in the final result. Miss Simm's attractive programme and poster design wittily incorporated the infamous herring. Mr. Green ably aided and abetted backstage. Mrs. Matthews was publicity agent for the play.

The producer, Miss Bywater, chose an adventurous play to stage this year—a very modern piece which has been shown fairly recently on television. The youthful actors, however, rose to the occasion and did full justice to Miss Bywater's interpretation of the production. The mood was lighter than that of the television version—rather a relief from the Northern gloom which pervaded the programme. The Cromptons came over as a real family—'a clannish lot,' as Betsy Jane described them, in spite of their differences. As the study of an over-strict parent reacting to a poverty-stricken childhood, "Spring and Port Wine" was an interesting and thought-provoking piece, enlivened by witty and natural interchanges.

Sylvia Ashton and David Woodhouse.

## **DEBATING COMPETITION 1977/78**

For the first time a team from Alcester Grammar School was entered in the inter-school debating competition run by the Stratford-upon-Avon Junior Chamber of Commerce. The competition has been in existence now for three years, and has previously been won by King Edward the Sixth's Grammar School and Bidford High School. The idea of the competition is to hold debates in which teams from different schools compete in front of a panel of judges from the Junior Chamber. They award points under various headings for the speeches and decide accordingly who the victor should be.

The team consisted of Trudy Stanley (leader), Julie Hall, Ann Sullivan and Sharon Watton. However, because of 'O' levels, Sharon was replaced in the second round by Amanda Wearing. In the first round we had to oppose Bidford High School, the motion being "This house would build canals rather than motorways." This was for most of us our first attempt at formal debating, and was a very closely fought debate which was won by just one point but also by the votes of two judges to one. This put us through to the second round, in which we had to propose the motion "This house believes

that rules were made to be broken," against K.E.S. We found this topic more difficult to research. However, our all-girl team was determined not to be beaten by a boy's school and eventually we won by nearly a hundred points.

Winning this second debate meant that we had, in the first two rounds, knocked out the two former winners of the competition. We now had the chance to see if A.G.S. could be the third name to appear on the Rose Bowl (the coveted trophy).

The final debate, against Chipping Camden, was held on neutral ground at King Edward's School. This time we had to oppose the motion "This house believes that television is a bane on society," but we were well armed with B.B.C. propaganda and managed to baffle the proposition with evidence in the shape of graphs and charts drawn up by using the Radio and T.V. Times magazines. This was another very closely fought debate. After what seemed to us an interminable length of time the judges announced that A.G.S. were the final victors by eighteen points, which meant that we would indeed be the holders of the trophy for the next year. This was partly due to the support which we were given by members of the school and by Mr. Balaam and other members of staff. Many thanks to all concerned.

Julie Hall (3S).

## **THE DEBATING SOCIETY**

This new society was founded at the beginning of the Summer term following our team's victory in the inter-schools debating competition. With the help of Mrs. Woodcock, a provisional committee was set up to start the ball rolling and to organise the first debate. The motion chosen was "This house opposes comprehensive reorganisation" and the debate was well attended by about forty pupils, who also had the opportunity to give their own opinions from the floor. The proposition, perhaps not surprisingly, was carried. The occasion was also used to elect a committee to organise future debates. Trudy Stanley and Julie Hall were elected chairman and vice-chairman respectively, and I was elected secretary. We are now in the process of organising a second debate to bring this school year to a close, and hope to have many more in the future.

Stephen Dyer (Secretary).

## **CHRISTIAN UNION**

The Christian Union was formed in the Autumn term after a visit from pupils of the Leys High School, who sang and read from the Bible. We have had several visits from local preachers, including Reverend and Mrs. Grantham, who led us in singing. We were honoured with visits from both Eddie Vass and Coventry City football player Don Nardiello. A group of youths from West Germany sang and talked to us about what religion means to them. We were also visited by a teacher from a Missionary High School at Mukinge in Zambia.

More recently a group of us attended a service with the old people at Malt Mill Lane. We would like to thank Mrs. Morgan and Mr. Balaam for arranging film shows and interesting discussions for our weekly meetings.

Sandra Taylor and Eleanor Woodhouse (4S).

### **INDUSTRIAL ARCHAEOLOGY SOCIETY**

The A.G.S. I.A.S. was formed in early March to study the industrial processes and methods of the past, mostly from visible remains.

The members were mostly students from the lower sixth whose interest was stimulated by Mr. Johnson's industrial archaeology liberal studies topic.

We began by surveying the railway bridge across the Arrow during lunchtime break, and also the parish of Salford Priors and Broom Junction after school.

In order to further enhance the society's interest in local history we applied for affiliation to the Alcester and District Local History Society and were fortunate enough to be accepted.

Excursions were made after school to Hoo Mill and Avoncroft Museum of Buildings, and during the Easter holidays we spent a day at the award-winning Ironbridge Gorge Museum in Salop.

Here our activities varied from racing up the Hay-inclined plane to stumbling in darkness through Tar tunnel, and included scratching pigs at a reconstructed toll-house, walking across Iron Bridge itself, and watching colliery winding-gear in operation.

Mr. Johnson amused us by comparing our eating habits to those of the "Billy Bunter Society" and awarded one rash member who hitched an unorthodox lift on the back of the minibus the title of "Fathead of the Year."

Shortly after this we returned home and owing to our expert navigation were only one and a half hours late.

It is my hope that in the coming year our society will continue to prosper and grow in numbers, particularly from forms lower down the school.

David Robertson (L6S).

### **SKI-TRIP 1978**

On the 8th February at 2.30 a.m., 42 of us staggered into the school car park after a night of little sleep and much panic to take the coach to Gatwick Airport.

In the plane we passed over the English Channel and Paris before heading for Milan Airport, where we boarded another coach for the ski resort of Aprica in the Italian Alps. We passed through a valley or two before coming to the famous Lake Como. After that it was a steep road over the mountains to our destination.

We arrived at the Hotel Edelweiss at 4.30 p.m. and we all wanted some food and a rest, but no! We were soon off again to hire our skis and boots before having supper at about 7 p.m. That night, hardly any unpacking was done: everyone went straight to bed.

Next morning, after a Continental breakfast, we went to meet our instructress, Sylvia, who for the next two days was to show us the basic movements of ski-ing. We were divided into groups and the people who had skied before went half-way up the slope to try and regain their ski-ing legs, but we all stayed on the nursery slopes. Our greatest thrill came when we went up the ski-lift and were allowed to come down fast but under control.

The food in the hotel was a new experience for all of us. Breakfast was always a roll, butter and jam. For many meals we often had pasta with different sauces but mainly tomato. Spaghetti caused problems for many people and we could not help laughing at their attempt to eat it. Twice we had steak and chips. For dessert we had blood oranges sometimes.

The games room in the hotel was used in the evenings and we could play on the pin-ball machines or use the juke box. One night we went ice skating and an ice hockey competition was played, but we were knocked out in the first round. Some of us went to a disco.

The big event of the holiday was James Emerson fracturing his tibia. This was very sad for him and also for Paul Evans, who shared the same room. James was unable to ski any more and needed two seats on the coach back home.

When the last day came many people were shattered by the hard ski-ing lessons and some missed their turn towards the end. Before leaving we were presented with awards of merit for our achievements during the week's ski-ing. On Wednesday, 15th February, we left for Milan and caught the night flight back to Gatwick. We were very tired when we arrived back in the school car park at 7.30 a.m. and were happy and glad to be re-united with our families.

We would like to thank all the staff—Mr. Micklethwaite, Mr. Macdonald, Mrs. Bonham and Mrs. Matthews—for all their hard work in organising the trip and for making this holiday so enjoyable.

Paul Evans, Stephen Thomas, Sally Sidaway,  
Simon Biffin, Brandon Ransley, Carole Lester.

## **MARLE HALL**

### **Lower Sixth Biology Group**

Early one October morning thirteen eager biologists squeezed into one small minibus and bumped their way to Marle Hall (with Dave Shore perched precariously on a pile of suitcases).

When we arrived (our faces an interesting shade of green) we were issued with wellies, walking boots and elephant-sized plastic waterproofs.

On Tuesday we were roused from our warm beds by the eight o'clock bell and the fear that we might miss breakfast.

We were first frozen and then drenched on the Great Orme's Head. In the minibus we watched our jeans steaming as we dried out.

On Wednesday we studied the river Dulas, where T. J. Ratledge discovered a new way of measuring the depth of a river, to wit: measure the height of your wellies and then wade out until water starts trickling into them.



The highlight of the week came that afternoon with a visit to Fawnog Bog. One biologist who shall remain nameless, insisted upon bouncing about on the delicate sphagnum skin, like a demented frog, and miraculously escaped an early bath.

Thursday morning's work consisted of a belt transect on a freezing salt marsh called Conway Morfa, where we employed Martyn Langston's intuitive biological technique, called "blind guesswork."

To recover from the ordeal of a Marle Hall packed lunch we did a little impromptu rock-climbing in Penrhyn Bay. Here T. J. Ratledge tested his waterproof by jumping into the sea fully clad.

On Friday, in a display of feminine bravado, Nikki Court and Carolyn O'Sullivan swam in the sea off Aberffraw on Anglesey.

We watched redshank, oystercatcher and godwits in Conway Bay on Saturday, and the following day, our senses numbed by countless hours of plotting graphical sections, we returned home.

David Robertson (L6S).

### **Lower Sixth Geography Field Course**

The lower sixth geography group, under the beady eye of Mr. Petherbridge, started out for Marle Hall on a cold and wet January morning. We all piled into the mini-bus along with numerous items of luggage, the latter taking up rather too much room for comfort. As we turned out onto the Birmingham Road, all of us began our packed lunch. By the time we reached the Bromsgrove turning we had all demolished our week's supply of rations. Nevertheless, we trundled on, but, owing to the sloth of the previous users of the bus, it was difficult to see out of the rear windows. Andrew "Harry" Dunbar kindly obliged, though, by cleaning them (from the outside!) as we sped around a major roundabout. By the time we had pulled him back inside the mini-bus we had arrived at a café where everyone had a second lunch and sustained themselves with more rations for the week ahead.

Eventually we arrived in sunny Wales and, at last, Marle Hall. We all piled out of the mini-bus, parked at the base on the "slope" on which the Hall stands. We struggled to the top with our various items of luggage, only to realise that Mr. Petherbridge had intended driving up later. We found our rooms and increased our stock of blankets threefold by borrowing some conveniently placed on other vacant beds. Then we collected our sexy oilskins (made especially three sizes too big) before assembling to begin a brief walk around the grounds of the Hall. One and a half hours later and much wetter our bedraggled group returned for dinner. Needless to say we were all sound asleep very early that night.

The next morning we commenced a town study of Llandudno (with particular reference to the cafés!). We decided to make the best of the brilliant sunshine—Micky and Louise even took a paddle. In the afternoon Mr. Petherbridge allowed us to walk up to the snowy heights of the Great Orme while he kindly volunteered to drive the mini-bus to the top!

On Wednesday it snowed heavily and after some difficulty in starting the mini-bus we chugged along the Nant Francon Valley, which resembled the Antarctic (and certainly felt like it) with over one foot of snow.

On Thursday we studied the generation of electricity and it snowed again. We nearly lost Renata at Ffestiniog Power Station as the attendant locked up the toilets when Renata was still inside. In the afternoon we had a lucky escape from Trawsfynydd Nuclear Power Station when we were tested for radiation prior to departure. Fortunately we all remained uncontaminated.

Our final day was spent on the island of Anglesey, where we studied various things, in particular trying to listen to Mr. Petherbridge above the crashing of the waves. We had a beach picnic but sand kept blowing into the food, so it had to be hidden under the over-generous expanse of someone's oilskin. That evening our wind-swept party arrived back at the Hall for the final time. We all easily climbed the slope and went to pack our bags. In the early hours of the morning the boys threw a farewell party in the girls' room and the girls eventually threw them out. The next morning, with bags under our eyes and in our hands, we crawled down to the mini-bus and were glad to get home for a rest.

Many thanks to Mr. Petherbridge for an enjoyable and interesting week.

Julie Dodsworth, Jennifer Fraser and Ann Sullivan (L6).

#### **Fourth Form Visit**

If the words rucksack, walking boots, mountain walk, sea, sunburn, bog, blister and packed lunch are now mentioned, I immediately think of the time between the 8th and 13th May when fifty-nine fourth formers descended on Marle Hall.

After our arrival on Monday, we were issued with our kit—consisting of an extremely uncomfortable pair of walking boots, an extremely heavy rucksack, an extremely large anorak, and an extremely small pair of waterproof trousers.

After tea and bun (note the singular) we were told to put on our boots as we were all going for a stroll before tea. Three blisters and fourteen miles later we had tea, which was followed by a lecture on mountain safety.

Meals were the highlight of the day—especially for Sue, who continued eating well into the silent watches of the night; and in fact she was rumoured to have woken up with half a Mars bar still in her mouth! The packed lunches were good, if a trifle monotonous—i.e., spam sandwiches were in abundant supply.

The least exerting day was Tuesday, our group's day for sea ecology. This was not wonderfully successful from the teacher's point of view as the tide came in and covered the rock pools, giving us little chance of finding and studying a mini habitat. We did, however, manage to fit in a lunch break (lasting about four hours!) followed by a walk along the coast.

Wednesday came and our fears were confirmed—we were to have the dreaded geography with Mr. Micklethwaite. This involved climbing about three different mountains (one was a mistake), me slipping into a peat bog two minutes before we stopped for lunch, and all of us having a snow fight on one of the mountains. (Mr. Micklethwaite also discovered a new and exciting pastime—sitting on a pair of waterproofs and tobogganning down the slope.)

Naturally, we were too late for tea and bun (which by then had been reduced to a ginger nut) so we gratefully staggered into the dining room for dinner.

Thursday was assigned to mountain walking, which by a strange coincidence greatly resembled the geography trip of the previous day, but Geoff, our understanding (?) instructor, took pity on us and let us rest our weary legs (once). On Thursday evening a few of us (the second lot) went canoeing. During the brief time actually on the water (as it was considered too dangerous to continue) three people managed to capsize; so, after we had returned to the shore, about five of us went for a swim, even though the water was below freezing point.

On the way back Mr. Cowell let us stop for fish and chips, but when he came back to the bus after getting his portion he attempted to cut off Maxine's hair and tried to prise my mouth open to see if I'd been eating any chips! However, he soon calmed down and we all got back safely.

On Friday we went pot-holing, which I was not too keen on; but the others enjoyed it, apart from the numerous spiders, and Sue saying she had a good foothold, only to find it was Alan's head!

Due to popular request we did **not** have the traditional disco on the Friday evening, but we were allowed the special privilege of staying up until half-past ten.

Not surprisingly, after such a hard and energetic week, we all went to sleep very quickly (including Sue, who by this time had just about run out of things to eat and was happily gnawing at the bed post), and awoke on Saturday morning all set for home comforts and civilization—but home comforts seem somewhat flat this week without the accompaniment of the chomp of teeth, the alarm of bells, the ache of muscles and the exhilarating enjoyment of shared silliness.

Elizabeth McCarthy (4S).

## A VISIT TO VALLET

During the Autumn half-term holiday the first school party went to Vallet. Miss Morgan and Mrs. Hughes took David Lawrence, Duncan Rankin, Jonathan Cartledge, Philip Wright, Nigel Payne, Philip Garratley, Mark Pugh, Kim Watton, Joanne Powell, Sarah Jasper, Tracey Cox, Mair Hughes and Nicola Hancox.

We left school on Friday afternoon and arrived in Vallet Saturday dinner-time. As we went through Nantes Mrs. Hughes drove onto the kerb of the road to stop us crashing into a lorry. We stopped the

bus and we all jumped out just as it started to rain. We had one burst tyre and one punctured tyre. This held us up for about three-quarters of an hour.

In Vallet there was a big reception waiting for us. We were taken home with our pen-friends until the evening. There was a meeting for us to attend too. The next time we met was on Monday in the local Secondary Catholic School (Frère Auguste's). In the afternoon we went to school at the junior school, which was where the majority of our pen-friends went.

Mair Hughes (2M).

On Monday we went to the Château de la Noë de Bel Air. There we saw how the grapes were pressed in the past and now. The modern method is to use a cylindrical press rather like a washing machine, with holes in it. As it revolves the juice is squeezed out and drips onto the floor. This method is worked by electricity. The old method involves about six men, who push around metal poles, attached to a wheel, which screws down onto the grapes, squashing them. The juice runs into a trough and is pumped into the barrels, where it ferments.

The château itself is rather like Ragley Hall, because they are both based on the same original building in Italy.

We also went to the church, which was huge and highly decorated with stained-glass windows and a beautifully painted ceiling. One French custom is for the congregation to throw sweets to the children who have just been baptised. These sweets are called 'des dragées' (sugared almonds).

Nearly every house in France has shutters because the French like to sleep in the dark and also, because they hinder thieves, the household need not pay insurance.

On Wednesday the French children had a holiday, so we stayed with our pen-friends. Mme. Goudy and Dominique, my pen-friend, took me into Nantes. We saw the birthplace of Jules Verne, the author of 'Around the World in Eighty Days.' Next we saw the Cathedral, which was beautiful, with angel statuettes around the door. A few years ago the roof of the cathedral caught alight and restoration was only finished in March. Beside the Cathedral was one of the old gates into Nantes, built in the Middle Ages and the only one still standing of the original four.

On Thursday, Mrs. Hughes and Miss Morgan took us to Angers to see the tapestries and stained-glass windows. On the way we stopped at a small, old-fashioned village which had grown up around a pottery works. The pottery was completely hand-made and we saw a man making a large pot for putting plants in (about two feet in diameter). He decorated it using something similar to a comb, making wavy patterns. The pottery came out of the kiln red and was not at all expensive. The one I bought, about six inches in diameter, only cost 1F (12p) ! Angers Cathedral's pulpit was beautifully carved, with large, three-dimensional figures, in a dark brown, very attractive wood. Over the door, as in Nantes Cathedral, were stone figures.

On Friday we visited the Yoghurt Factory in Vallet, and saw natural and special yoghurts being manufactured. After this we went to the château at Nantes. Inside was a museum with wreckage from ships, figure-heads and models of Nantes' port. Also there were furniture and costumes of Nantes and district.

I would like to thank Monsieur and Madame Goudy and Dominique as well as Mrs. Hughes and Miss Morgan for a lovely holiday.

Jonathan Cartledge (2S).

## **THE HOLLAND TRIP**

### **Or How to Lapse into a Coma of Exhaustion over Easter**

On March 24th, twelve girls from Alcester Grammar School plus two "guest stars" from Hampton Hockey Club made a perilous journey to Holland under the watchful eye of Mrs. V. Scott (mother extraordinaire). The reason for this organised fiasco was to take part in an international hockey tournament at Zwolshe Hockey Club. After braving London taxis, sea sickness, and unflattering passport photos we eventually arrived at our destination twelve hours after setting out.

The next day we crawled to the opening ceremonies held at the hockey club. The clubs' flags fluttered in the breeze apart from ours, which sagged upside-down. The hockey matches commenced with the ceremonial presentation of the Alcester tea towels in exchange for the club pennants we received.

In between matches we investigated remedies for stiffness, cramp, fatigue and indigestion (due to mass-produced ham sandwiches). Many glucose tablets later, Saturday's hockey was over and we retired to our hosts' houses for an evening meal. Many of us found ourselves staying in mansions with marble floors, chandeliers and velvet suites. We were soon back to the hockey club for a wild party and the Dutch hockey players were subjected to our display of good old English "bopping."

On Easter Sunday competitions such as "throw the coloured Easter eggs at the opposition" were organised by the Alcester team (who nearly started an international crisis). Despite continuous pleas for an unknown team "Alcester Grammaire School" to report to the obstacle race, AGS hockey players could be found lurking under tables disguised as left-over ham sandwiches to avoid the perils of this event.

After the closing ceremonies, Monday saw twelve AGS hockey players on borrowed bikes terrorising the bicycle lanes of Zwolshe. After a near miss with a police car, an ice-cream parlour was invaded (to avoid the torrential rain) and the Dutch map was consulted. Everyone thought the cycling a great success (apart from a few notable characters who forgot continental road regulations).

Tuesday morning saw the team (several Alcester tea towels lighter but hampered by souvenir clogs, plastic tulips, etc.) travelling home.

London saw the team threatening taxi drivers with hockey sticks and excess baggage. However, we still missed the train. Finally in

Birmingham, we were met by hysterical parents who were concerned for our well-being.

P.S. In between the above events we managed to play some hockey matches and were runners-up in the tournament.

Helen Thompson and Anne Hunt (5S).

## **MUSIC REPORT**

A piano competition took place internally in the Spring term. Francesca Tompkins (3S) won the competition outright with 92 out of a possible 100 marks. Next year it is hoped to run a full-scale music competitive festival in the school.

The Choral Ensemble again gave a concert in Alcester Parish Church. This was well attended and much enjoyed by singers and audience. Fauré Requiem and Part 1 of the Creation are the next works to be performed in the Autumn term, after which the ensemble will turn away from religious works and concentrate on Madrigal works of the 16th and 17th centuries.

M.B.

## **THE CHORAL SOCIETY**

The A.G.S. Choral Society, consisting of parents and several members of the school, meets every Thursday evening at school to rehearse for the annual concert in October.

Last year's concert took place in St. Nicholas Church, Alcester, and, appropriately, the main work performed was 'The Mass of St. Nicholas' by Haydn. Soloists were Claire Lancaster, Alison Lancaster, Alice Emerson, Mr. Green and Mr. Thomas. The choir also sang 'Turn back, O Man' by Holst, accompanied by brass players from the school, and 'Laudate Dominum' by Monteverdi, with the same soloists, including Elizabeth McCarthy. The organist was Peter Foreshaw from Evesham.

The school septet provided some music to link the two halves of the performances.

The Society also appeared at the school Christmas Carol Service, and is giving two more concerts in October, in St. Nicholas and St. Peter's Church, Coughton.

Alice Emerson (5S) and Stephen Dyer (L6).

## **SUMMER CONCERT 1978**

The programme was opened by the orchestra, whose members come from throughout the school. A varied range of music was played, namely: a German Dance by Beethoven, a Minuet in G minor by Bach, the Children's March by Schubert and the Overture to Orpheus in the Underworld by Offenbach.

Next, Jonathan Hallam played on his clarinet a Sonatina by James Walker, a composer and concert pianist from Stratford-upon-Avon. Alice Emerson, accompanied by Anne Hunt, sang a short, humorous song which was very well received, as indeed was the

Nocturne in B flat minor by Field, ably played on the piano by Francesca Tompkins. To follow were two madrigals by Holborne and Weethes which were rounded off with Rule Britannia, sung by members of the third year. Guitarists from various years then gave a rendition of the original version of Annie's Song, recently popularised by James Galway, and a song called Skewball. The third soloist, Suzanne Brain, who sang 'Art thou troubled?' by Handel, was followed by the Wind Band, which, conducted by Mr. Brinson, played the Wedding March from the 'Sound of Music,' 'Oh, I can't sit down' from 'Porgy and Bess' and a Norwegian Dance by Grieg. To conclude the first half "Isis," a recently formed group of lower sixth, Stephen Dyer, Jonathan Hallam and Paul Hancox, with a lead singer, Liz McCarthy, from the fourth year, played two songs by Elton John and 'Ripples of Mind,' their own composition.

The second half opened with the choir singing 'Welcome, welcome, mighty King' by Handel, 'Rich and Rare' and a Negro Spiritual song, 'Little David.' The next item consisted of Czech and Yugoslav dance tunes played by the recorder group. This was followed by "Hip, Hip, Horatio," described on the programme as a Pop Cantata, sung by members of forms one to three. Two pieces, Allegretto by David Stone and Fugue à la Rumba by De Coursey, played by the septet, preceded the Finale, which was the chorus from 'The Wizard of Oz,' sung, as it seemed, by a large proportion of the school.

Thanks to Mr. Brinson's determined efforts over a number of weeks, the concert was a huge success.

Jonathan Hallam (L6).

## **BARNARDO'S**

The time has arrived for the 1977-8 report for Barnardo's and I find that the total of money raised by members of the school comes to £241.94—a result most deeply appreciated by Barnardo headquarters in these days of ever-increasing costs and expenses.

The Form I Christmas Tree Collection raised £27.94 and the Non-Uniform day at the end of the Autumn term raised £26.20. The Upper Sixth donated £6 which was money they had left over from the party. Their end-of-term entertainment resulted in the sum of £4.54.

At the end of the Spring term Mr. Castle came from Coventry to give the annual film show and talk to Form 1 and afterwards I was able to enrol twenty-one new members. It is most encouraging to see so many joining the Barnardo group for there is an ever-increasing need for the money that members can raise. This year's annual box-opening produced the magnificent sum of £161.56 and the members who helped to achieve this record deserve our congratulations.

As always happens, there were the unexpected events which pleased and encouraged. One parent most kindly sent a donation of £5 and Mark Foster and Simon Hill in Form I held a sale and garden party at half-term which brought in £10.70. Their enterprise is much appreciated and any help which others can give in the coming year will be most welcome.

Short Service awards were made to Julie Taylor, Polly Thompson, Karen Miller, Karen Wells, Nicola Smith and David Apsley whilst Susan Edwards gained a Founder's award.

K.G.M.

## PARENTS' ASSOCIATION MINI-BUS APPEAL FUND

For the school year starting in September 1977 the P.A. decided to make a big effort to raise as much money as possible towards replacing the school mini-bus, which was bought in 1973. Allowing for the trade-in of the existing bus, a target figure of £4,000 was set.

Apart from the usual events of the P.A. year covering end-of-term dances in the Greig Hall, barn dances and a Christmas bazaar, special efforts have been made to raise the extra money. Many of these efforts have come from the children. A sponsorship day realised over £550, and some members of the lower sixth went into business selling ice creams and soft drinks at school, which, together with a non-uniform day, have raised over £200. In addition, generous donations by parents have contributed over another £200, and a magnificently attended Spring Fayre made a record £950. The 100 club continued to work well and most of the profits from this were used to cover the running costs of the existing mini-bus.

All-in-all this year has realised a net figure of around £2,500 towards our target figure. This has meant a lot of hard work by both children and parents, for which you are all to be sincerely thanked. In the coming year 1978-79, we shall have to try and raise the remainder of the money in order to get the new bus, so we hope that your generous support will be continued.

D.T.M.

## PREFECTS 1978-79

**Head Boy:** Stephen Dyer. **Deputy Head Boy:** Stephen McCarthy.

**Prefects:** Matthew Goodman, Jonathan Hallam, Colin Partridge, Trevor Ratledge, David Robertson, David Shore, Digby Smart, Michael Blizzard, Paul Hancox, Andrew Phelps, Hugh Rowley.

**Head Girl:** Clare Sawyer. **Deputy Head Girl:** Trudy Stanley.

**Prefects:** Amanda Brewin, Julie Dodsworth, Jayne Fox, Nicola Pepper, Elizabeth Sturley, Ann Sullivan, Siobhan Clancy, Nicola Court, Jennifer Fraser, Renata Mosz, Michelle Shaw.

## HOUSE CHAMPIONSHIP 1977-78

	1st	2nd	3rd
Boys' Senior Rugby	W	S	N
Boys' Junior Rugby	W	N	S
Girls' Hockey	N	S	W
Boys' Senior Soccer	W	N	S
Boys' Junior Soccer	W	N	S
Cross Country	S	N	W
Girls' Senior Tennis	N	S	W



Boys' Senior Tennis	W	S	N
Athletics	N	S	W
Boys' Senior Cricket	W	S	N
Boys' Junior Cricket	W	S	N
First Year Swimming Gala	W	N	S
Junior Girls' Rounders	S	N	W
Senior Mixed Rounders	W	S	N
1st Wells 90 points			
2nd Spencer 74 points			
3rd Newport 70 points			

## THE VIOLINIST

*Slowly*  
*he*  
*draws*  
*the*  
*bow*  
*across*  
*the white rosinned*  
*strings, screeches turn to*  
*notes, notes turn to music,*  
*music turns to a rampant*  
*Russian rhapsody.*  
*Concentrate.*  
*Up, down, up, down,*  
*The bow is flying,*  
*G sharp, B flat,*  
*Mind that quaver*  
*G natural, minim rest.*  
*Pwang! ————— Ah!*  
*Must concentrate, he turns*  
*the page to start his*  
*recital*  
*once more.*

Alastair Roeses (1M).

## THE CALL OF THE SEA

*Watch the surf,*  
*Down on the beach,*  
*Where the calm water*  
*Is quite out of reach.*  
*Step in the water,*  
*Up to your knees.*  
*Gasping and shivering,*  
*In the cold breeze.*  
*The current is tugging,*  
*Drawing you in.*  
*Through the wild breakers,*  
*That make your head spin.*

*Riding the waves,  
Out on the sea,  
Look at the shore,  
The boats and the quay.  
Away from the town,  
In the deep swell.  
Where you might drown,  
With no one to tell.  
Cling to the board,  
And wait for the crest.  
Will it be this one  
Or one of the rest?  
The white water forms,  
On top of the wave.  
If you jump now,  
You become the sea's slave.  
Tossing and tumbling,  
You rush to the shore.  
Pick yourself up,  
And turn round for more.*

John Ward (1S).

## THE ROBIN

*When the snow was thick upon the ground,  
and small boys were sliding and skating,  
On the iced-over millpond;  
The small unnoticed robin,  
with fluffed-up feathers, watched and waited.  
When frost was lying on the grass,  
and gipsies' fires, once glowing warm, died,  
On the deserted common;  
The small unnoticed robin,  
with snow-clubbed feet, turned and waited.  
When leafless trees sighed in the wind,  
and the cold bird fell off the branch,  
A lonely child found him there;  
That small unnoticed robin,  
No longer need wait.*

Mark Evans (1M).

## DANGEROUS JOURNEY

*Just where the hill climbs slow and steep,  
He stands alone his guard to keep.  
Every morning he plays the part,  
And starts the thumping of my heart.  
With flashing eye and snarling gums,  
He forward dashes and backward runs.  
I stand immobile at the gate,*

At last prepared to meet my fate,  
 But then a voice is heard to call,  
 Over the nearby garden wall.  
 "Breakfast, Boy!"  
 And then I may pass,  
 As off he scampers through the grass.  
 A hungry puppy, who, once again,  
 Has almost made me miss my train.

Katherine Lewis (2S).

### "EMPTY WITHIN"

Poor decaying mansion, left to crumble to the floor,  
 Fleeting memories fading with the paper on your walls.  
 Grimy window panes—some smashed, some trying to protect,  
 Battle with the ivy as it closes in its net.  
 Birds have long since flown from your once friendly nesting eaves  
 Blown away for ever, like your unswept, windswept leaves,  
 No-one to remember you, no-one left to care,  
 A long forgotten 'Sale' board is the only one to share.  
 Mossy garden walls and bright clematis running wild,  
 An ancient garden shed against which rotting tools are piled.  
 These show you once were cared for, though your owners did not stay,  
 And they left you, dying remnants of a house, to fade away.

Sara Jane Plant (3M).

### IKEY—THE TRAMP

You may see him wandering along a country lane or road,  
 Travelling without purpose and without a fixed abode.  
 He travels in all weathers to seek a place of rest,  
 No care about direction, just north, south, east or west.  
 He never dresses decently, in fact, he doesn't care  
 About his strange appearance—dirty face and tangled hair.  
 If while travelling through a village he comes upon a farm,  
 He'll pay respects to farmers' hens—he won't do any harm.  
 But farmers aren't so sure of that, a stranger in their yard?  
 A stick is lying near at hand—with this they hit him hard.  
 The tramp, despite his swollen feet, covers the fields like a hare,  
 But one thing he remembers is—he's never going back there.  
 He travels onwards through the fields until it's time to eat,  
 And then he'll search around to find himself a pleasant seat.  
 No joint sizzling in the oven, but a pan on open fire.  
 He's caught a tender rabbit and picked blackberries from a briar.  
 Although he'd much prefer a plate, a knife, a fork, a spoon,  
 He's still content to stay a tramp and sleep beneath the moon.  
 This filthy looking vagabond—Ikey by name,  
 A theft occurs just where he's been, guess who gets the blame.  
 The villagers approach him there—he looks from side to side  
 No time at all for Ikey now to run away and hide.

*The villagers escort him down a well-trodden country lane.  
They take him to a jail-house with bars instead of pane.  
He stays there feeling sorry, and with the villagers he tries  
To make some friends, but all in vain, they will not sympathise.*  
Jenny Amor (3M).

## THE UNIFORM

*The sound of marching boots broke the deadly silence. The rows of uniforms and tin hats waded through the mud of a war-rutted road. Each pair of boots identical, each uniform and tin hat indistinguishable from the next. They marched in symmetrical columns, each column the same as that before and after.*

*A sharp crack, a bullet cut through the air, and it sped through the chest of a uniform. The uniform groaned and fell to the ground. The uniform lay still in the mud, while the symmetrical columns disappeared into the distance.*

Chris Rugg (4M).

## THE TRUTH ABOUT MARLE HALL

*The following article is based on eye-witness accounts, given by the few survivors.*

*"As our police-van emerged from the mountain pass, I peered through the bars, and glimpsed what would become, for most of us, our final resting place. The Black Maria, cunningly disguised as a school mini-bus, stopped at the foot of the towering bulk of black rock, on top of which was Marle Hall. The sentries checked our captors' passes before allowing us into the main compound.*

*The teachers who had brought us here had been enticed by the notice hanging in the staff-room of every Warwickshire school which read, 'If your school has any miscreants, send them to Marle Hall, and make a profit of about £10 per head.'*

*As we came from a Grammar School we were entitled to a dormitory with a roof. The following morning we were shown round the buildings —i.e., the canteen, the interrogation room, the torture chamber and the wash-house.*

*First on the agenda was rock-climbing. The more fortunate people were given ropes and instructions. People who insulted the instructors somehow became detached from their ropes.*

*Next came canoeing. This was most interesting to watch, because if the rocks did not get you, the sharks would. Anyone who had the sheer audacity to survive that was given a canoe with an outboard motor and sent off in the general direction of the Menai Strait.*

*Then there was the charming pastime of walking in the country. The teacher would sit on a tractor, the participants would be tied to the back of it, and the teacher would drive around the countryside until he ran out of fuel. When this happened, he would harness the pupils to the front of it, and make them tow him back.*

*If, at the end of the day, you dared to say that you were not exhausted you would find that you had volunteered for a session of 'spud bashing' in preparation for the meals the next day."*

Tim Down ((4M).

(Based on "The Loneliness of the Long Distance Runner" by Alan Sillitoe.

## THE VICTORY

*Sweat is pouring from each aching limb  
Jolting agony, inch after him,  
Claw past the leader and gather more ground  
On towards victory, always the sound  
Of the pound as each foot strikes the  
Brown solid earth.  
Suddenly glimpsing the red awning there  
The flowery hats and electric air  
Above the neat and clustered audience  
Who stand in the rain,  
Who taste the glory with none of the pain.  
Mile after mile run and run through the mud  
Till mercifully the throb of the blood  
In my temples gives way  
To effortless gliding mechanical motion  
Which goes beyond pain.  
I can see the white tape tantalisingly taut  
And I'm pushing and straining  
Then one blinding thought fills my head.  
Whilst my body is burning and yearning to win  
My mind, with a clinical calm, stops me dead.  
I see the expressions of smugness turn white  
I see the governor in his halo of light  
Mouthing to me—go on!  
And I stop.  
And I smile, bent and heaving for air.  
The governor sinks back in his V.I.P. chair.  
I view the runners drift slow motion by  
The man I was beating gives a victory sign.  
He may enjoy his laurels,  
The victory's mine.*

Sylvia Ashton (U6).

## CONGRATULATIONS

David Gravestock, member of Stratford-on-Avon Kyakists (SOAK), competed in the British Canoe Union Slalom at Shepperton in Surrey and finished 25th out of 100 canoeists.

Gregory Hickin was junior sports star at the Abbey Stadium.

Julian Trout won the trophy for the title of Midlands Conker Champion of 1977.

## BADMINTON

The under-17 boys' team entered the Worcestershire Under-17 League. The team included Nigel Hood, Ian Langston, Nicholas Tadd, Mark Lamb and Tony Noakes. Although the whole team fought bravely

we were defeated in every match. Even so it was good experience for the team, and we managed to defeat a number of county players.

In view of the enjoyment it gave the team, although the results were defeats it was a successful season.

The team would like to thank Mrs. Matthews for all the moral support and transport to and from matches.

Nigel Hood.

## STAFF NEWS

Best wishes to Miss A. J. Morgan and Mr. D. T. Micklethwaite on their marriage on April 15, 1978.

Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. A. J. Macdonald on the birth of a daughter, Anna Elizabeth, on April 29th, 1978.

During the absence of Miss Simm in the Summer Term, Art lessons were taught by Mrs. J. S. Holmes, who remains with us to teach Religious Studies and French.

Mrs. V. Pearson, who taught Religious Studies here for two years, left at the end of the Summer Term 1978.

Mr. A. J. Macdonald has been appointed Head of Mathematics at Northfield School, Birmingham. His place is taken by Mrs. Sandra Harper, from Whitesmore School, Chelmsley Wood.

## 1978 CRUISE

A group of 28 pupils plus Mrs. Micklethwaite and Mr. Cowell set off from Gatwick Airport on March 1st on a Comet. We landed at Naples and joined our ship, the SS Uganda, 17,000 tons. We spent the first two days getting lost on board the ship—apparently this was quite normal.

Our first day's visit was to Pompeii in the morning and a trudge up Mount Vesuvius in the afternoon. We then sailed to Syracuse in Sicily, where we visited places of architectural interest, including a visit to the catacombs.

Our next port of call was Alexandria, where we were greeted by a splendid brass band. Coaches took us through Cairo to the Pyramids at Ghiza, and an exhausting day ended with a 180-mile return journey to Alexandria.

Overnight we sailed to Haifa, in Israel. A frantic dash around the country—10 minutes at Jericho!—included visits to Bethlehem, Jerusalem and the Dead Sea area. We "did" Israel in about 14 hours.

From Haifa we started the return journey, taking in Crete (including Knossos), and ended up in Venice for the flight home.

Much of the fortnight was obviously spent on board the ship and a full timetable was followed by all the pupils. Guest lecturers gave us much information about archaeology, geology and geography, and all involved thoroughly enjoyed their two weeks in "the cradle of civilisation."

D.C.

## PEMBROKE CANOE WEEK

The Editors regret that lack of space prevents the inclusion of a report by Mark Greenaway (4M) on this excursion. The members were Hugh Rowley, Digby Smart, Peter Bromwich, Ronnie Smith, Robert Short, Matthew Burton, Mark Greenaway, Adrian Blundell, James Emerson, and the leaders were Mr. Cowell and Mr. Calvert.

## OLD SCHOLARS' NEWS

Mary Seeney (66-73) has taken up nursing in Cambridge.

Brian Williams (70-77) is a trainee accountant at the Birmingham Co-operative Society.

Janet Leighton (71-77) works for Property Services Agency at Long Marston.

Simon Gregory (72-77) is an apprentice engineer at Avon Hydraulics, Bidford-on-Avon.

Rosemary John (65-72) is a qualified physiotherapist after three years' study at the Royal Orthopaedic Hospital School of Physiotherapy, Birmingham.

Hazel Williams (75-76) has completed a secretarial and language course at S.W.C.F.E. and is a qualified junior secretary.

Denise Ransley (73-75) has started a two-year course at the International Salvation Army Training College with a view to becoming an officer in the Salvation Army.

Christopher Davies (69-71) is assistant catering manager at Warwick Castle.

Alec Baseley (67-74) is at Derby Polytechnic, studying Personnel and Business Management.

Rosemary Baseley (67-74) is teaching French and Mathematics at Stratford High School.

Jeremy Mayle (66-73) sent greetings from the British Embassy in Ankara.

Julia Robinson (70-74) obtained her S.R.N. in 1976 and is practising Radiography at Queen Elizabeth Hospital, Birmingham.

Jackie Shaw (69-76) is a shorthand-typist in French and German at High Duty Alloys.

Margaret Clarke (69-76) has gained a Certificate in Accountancy at Lanchester Polytechnic.

Andrew Peter Dawe (67-73) was awarded a B.A. degree in Business Studies after a sandwich course with R.N.U. Renault and Phoenix Assurance Company.

Graham Ricketts (67-73) gained a Bachelor of Technology degree, class 2.i, in Production Engineering at Brunel University.

Julia Curtis (67-73) has an honours degree, class 2.i, in Pharmacy (specialising in Pharmaceutics) and works at the London Hospital (Mile End), part of the teaching hospital at Whitechapel.

Roger Hartland (67-74) obtained a B.Sc. degree, class 2, in Business Administration after a four-year sandwich course at Bath University. He is now an articled clerk with Peat, Marwick, Mitchell & Co., Birmingham, a firm of international chartered accountants.

Thomas Seeney (67-74) gained a class 2 degree in Engineering Geology and Geotechnics at Portsmouth Polytechnic. He is working as a petroleum geologist with the world-wide exploration company Exploration Logging.

Paul Morris (68-75) gained his B.A. degree, class 2.ii, in Natural Sciences at Fitzwilliam College, Cambridge, and is taking teacher training at Nottingham.

Alan Kibblewhite (67-75) has been awarded a B.Sc. degree, class 2.ii, in Agriculture at Reading University.

Clive Biddle (68-75) obtained his B.Sc. degree, class 2.i, in Chemical Engineering at Aston University.

Ian Duffin (69-75) has a bachelor's degree, class 2.ii, in Commerce at Birmingham University, and is training as a chartered accountant with Price, Waterhouse & Co., Birmingham.

Noel Morgan (68-75) gained a B.Sc. degree, class 2.i, in Biological Science at Leicester University, where he now has a Research Studentship leading to a Ph.D. degree.

Maria Maw (68-75) was awarded a B.Sc. honours degree, class 2.ii, in Biochemistry at Kent University, and hopes to start a Research Assistantship with Dr. A. J. Rowe at Leicester University, leading to a Ph.D. degree.

Mary McGuire (68-75) has gained an honours B.A. degree, class 2.i, in Modern Languages (French and Spanish) at Queen Mary College, London. She is following a post-graduate teaching course at Reading University.

Peter Thirlby (69-73) obtained a B.Sc. degree, class 2.i, in Commercial Studies at Leicester University and expects to become a journalist for a scientific paper.

Carol Fisher (68-75) gained the Certificate in Education (P.E. and Maths.) at Newcastle.

Anthony Davies (67-74) gained the Certificate in Education (Maths.) at Carmarthen and is teaching at Hawthorne Comprehensive School, Pontypridd.

Timothy Baldwin (70-77) spent a year at the Student Engineers' Training Centre at Royal Aircraft Establishment, Farnborough, and completed his preliminary training at the Aeroplane and Armaments Experimental Establishment, Boscombe Down. He started his degree course in Aeronautics and Astronautics at Southampton University in September.

Jeanne Peskett (67-72) gained the Certificate in Education at Hockerill College of Education in July 1977, and has been teaching for a year at Little Hadham J.M.I. School in Hertfordshire as head of the nursery department.

Tony Baylis (67-72) is the professional drummer in "Speed Limit" (formerly "Guinevere"). His group recently released a single record called "Wino" and an L.P. entitled "First Offence."

Wendy Padbury (59-63), married to actor Melvyn Hayes, plays David in a B.B.C. film, "David and Goliath."

Linda Watson (75-78) is a courier with Hormont Travel.



John Seeney (75-77) has joined the Franciscans at Greyfriars, Northampton.

Susan Pugh (68-75) is teaching Domestic Science at Wythall.

Anthony Roberts (58-64) is Branch Manager in Stratford-on-Avon of the Staffordshire Building Society.

Ruth Brown (née Taylor) (66-73), after working in Barclay's Bank, Hull, and Chemistry Research and Development Laboratory in Hull, is hoping to take a bilingual secretarial course.

## **MARRIAGES**

The Hon. Emerson PEART to Hilary MADGE (64-71).

Noel MORGAN (68-75) to Margaret BALL.

Keith READ to Elaine BRADLEY (70-75).

Nicholas LEACH to Jeanne PESKETT (67-72).

George BROWNING to Gillian CROWE (68-75).

David SAVAGE (68-73) to Julie SPIRES (68-75).

Denis FISHER to Carole RUNDLE (69-73).

Richard WILSON (61-68) to Sandra BENNETT.

John SAWYER (71-73) to Olga ZALEWSKA.

Alan WHITE to Jane SAWYER (67-74).

Michael WHITE (69-74) to Susan CLEMAS.

## **BIRTHS**

To Mr. and Mrs. K. LAMBERT (née Sue Searson, 67-72), a daughter, Caroline Jane, in August 1977.

## **DEATHS**

George Henry Dowdeswell (23-27).

## **OXFORD LOCAL EXAMINING BOARD RESULTS—1978**

Code: e—English language, el—English literature, f—French, g—German, h—history, ec—Economics, gy—Geography, m—Mathematics, fm—Further Mathematics, am—Advanced Mathematics, p—Physics, c—Chemistry, Mathematics, am—Additional Mathematics, p—Physics, c—Chemistry, b—Biology, hb—Human Biology, mw—Metalwork, ed—Engineering Drawing, he—Home Economics, a—Art, mu—Music, rs—Religious Studies, l—Latin, nwd—Needlework and Dress, fn—Food and Nutrition.  
\* denotes that the highest grade was awarded.

## **Advanced Level**

Brian Freeman—m, p, b; Richard Heath—ec; Michael Rich—p,c,b; Robert Sealey—p; Christopher Tompkins—m, c, b; Martin Woodger—p, c; Christine Beech—ec, c, b; Frances Clack—f, g, mu; Linda Farmery—b; Elizabeth Hadwen—c; Lesley Harris—he; Claire Jackson-Mee—p, c, b; Jan Read—f, g; Michael Allen—h, ec; Michael Burlton—ec, gy; Stephen Davies—m; Colin Foster—m\*, fm, p, c; Christopher Hood—el\*, h; Nicholas Rospin—gy, m, b; David Woodhouse—el, f, ec; David Peters—m, p, c; Christine Baldwin—el, f, h; Melanie Barnsdale—el; Amanda Clark—p, c, b; Mary Emerson—m, fm, p\*, c; Ruth Lynam—f, ec\*; Fiona Reeves—gy, c, b; Alison Scott—p, c, b; Gillian White—m, p, c, b; Clive Devey—m, p; Timothy Drew—p, c; Graham Dunbar—ed; David Harrison—gy; Christopher Howarth—p, c; Nigel Noaks—m, p\*, c; David Phillips—m, p, c; James Toseland—h, ec, gy; Sylvia Ashton—el\*, f\*, h\*; Christine Catherall—ec\* gy, m; Joanna Downes—el\*, f\*; Julie Quiney—c; Debra Smith—m, c, b.

## Ordinary Level

5M. David Akerman—gy; Neil Burdett—e, gy, m, p, ed; Peter Burgess—e, el, fn; Richard Chilton—e, el, f, gy, m\*, p, c, mw; Jonathan Edmunds—e\*, el, f, g, m, b, a; Mark Freeman—e, f, m, p, b; Warren Harding—e, m, mw, ed; Peter Hill—e\*, el\*, f, h, gy, m, p; Alastair Lynam—e, f, g, h, m, hb\*; Tony Noaks—e, el, gy\*, m, p, c, b; Anthony Richards—e; Alistair Rowley—e, el, f, gy, m, p, b; David Scally—e, el, m, p, c, ed; Daniel Statham—mw, ed; Ian Watson—e, el, m; Andrew Williams—e, m, ed; Jane Broderick—e, el\*, f, g, h, rs, gy, m; Barbara Carey—hb; Jean Causier—e\*, el, f, rs, gy, hb\* fn\*; Rachel Coldicutt—e, el\*, f, h, rs, gy, m, b, fn\*; Alice Emerson—e\*, el\*, f\*, g\*, m\*, p\*, c\*, b\*, mu\*; Melanie Green—e, el\*, f\*, g, h, rs\*, gy, m, hb\*; Shirley Hunt—el, m, c, b; Alison Lancaster—e, el\*, f, rs, m, p, hb\*, a\*; Elizabeth Plummer—e, el\*, h, gy\*, m, c, b; Helen Quigley—e, el\*, f, gy, m, c, b, fn\*; Catherine Stancliffe—e, el\*, f, g, h, m, c, b; Jane Stevens—e, el\*, f\*, gy\*, m\*, p, c, b; Rowena Swinboure—e, el, f, rs, gy, m, p, c, b\*; Anne Thompson—e, el, f, g, gy, m\*, p, c; Sharon Watton—e, el\*, f, m\*, p, c, b; Jane Whinn—e, el\*, f, rs\*, gy\*, m, c, b, fn\*; Susan Wright—e, el\*, f\*, g\*, h\*, rs\*, gy, m, hb\*.

5S. Peter Allely—e, m, p\*, c, mw\*, ed\*; Peter Bromwich—e, el, f, m\*, p\*, c\*, b, mw; Timothy Cooke—el, f, gy, m, p, a; Graham Cox—e, f, gy, m, p, ed; David Gravestock—p, mw\*, ed; Paul Ingram—e, el, f\*, gy, m, p; Mark Lamb—gy, m, p; Alex Lavender—e; Toby Morris—ed; Paul Newton—e\*, el, p, c, b; Richard Portman—e, p, c, b, mw\*; Michael Randall—el, gy, a; Ashley Smith—e, gy, a; Nicholas Tadd—e\*, el, f\*, m, p; Jonathan Vale—e, el, f, m, p, c, b, mw\*; Andrew Walters—e, el, f, m, p, c, b; Andrew Yapp—e, c, hb, fn; Mandy Allen—e, el, f, gy, m, p; Clare Brewer—e, el, f\*, g, m, p, c, b; Lynn Clarke, e, el, f, h, hb\*; Ellen Currah—e\*, el, f, gy\*, m\*, p, c, b; Jane Hartland—e, el\*, f, h, m, p, c, b; Anne Hunt—e\*, el\*, f\*, h, gy, m\*, p, a\*, mu; Diana Jones—e, el\*, f\*, h, gy, m\*, p, c, mu; Lynne Silvestone—e, el\*, f, h, m, c, b, a; Amanda Smart—e\*, el\*, f, h\*, m\*, p\*, c\*, b\*; Dawn Summersby—e, el\*, f\*, g, h\*, gy, m\*, p; Christine Taylor—e\*, el\*, f, hb\*, fn, a\*; Helen Thompson—e, el, f, gy, hb\*, a\*; Julie Wall—e, el, f, hb, fn, a; Judith Williams—e, el, f, rs, fn.

Upper Sixth. Lesley Harris—nwd; Ruth Lyman—p; Sylvia Ashton—l\*.

Lower Sixth. Steven Chambers—am; John Greenaway—mw; Jonathan Hallam—mu; Paul Hancox—am; Colin Partridge—am; Hugh Rowley—am, mw; Nicola Pepper—am; Julia Rankin—am; Clare Sawyer—am; Matthew Goodman—am; Stephen McCarthy—am; Andrew Phelps—am; Susan Berridge—am; Nicola Court—am; Jayne Fox—am; Martyn Langston—am; Trevor Ratledge—am; David Shore—am; Digby Smart—am; Elizabeth Sturley—am; Deborah Rugg—am.

Fifth Form. C.S.E. grade 1 (equivalent to "O" level pass). Michael Randall and Jean Causier—m.

## Upper Sixth Leavers:—

**To Universities:** Brian Freeman (Electronics at Salford), Michael Rich (Materials Science at Bradford), Martin Woodger (Materials Science at Aston), Colin Foster (Chemical Engineering at Sheffield), Christopher Hood (Modern History and Politics at Manchester), David Peters (Mechanical Engineering 1979 at Southampton, sponsored by Triplex), Christine Baldwin (Modern Languages at Bangor), Mary Emerson (Engineering Science at Exeter), Fiona Reeves (Ophthalmics at UMIST), Alison Scott (Medicine at University College, London), Nigel Noaks (Electronic Engineering at Southampton), David Phillips (Chemical Engineering at UMIST), James Toseland (Geography at Aberystwyth), Sylvia Ashton (Politics, Philosophy and Economics at Lady Margaret Hall, Oxford), Christine Catherall (Hotel Administration at Surrey), Christine Beech (Nursing at Manchester), Debra Smith Nursing at City, London), Clive Devey (Engineering Materials Technology at Aston).

**To Polytechnics:** Lesley Harris (HND Catering and Hotel Administration at Portsmouth), Michael Burlton (Business Studies at Oxford), Stephen Davies (Business Studies at Pontypridd), David Harrison (HND Building at Bristol).

**To Colleges of Education:** Frances Clack (Nene College, Northampton), John Yapp (Matlock).

**To Other Colleges:** Nicholas Forbes (A levels at SWCFE), Ruth Lynam (Birmingham School of Physiotherapy).

**To Nursing:** Linda Farmery (Queen Elizabeth, Birmingham).

**To Other Training and Employment:** Richard Heath (Insurance), Elizabeth Hadwen (Banking), Jan Read (Trainee Buyer at N. C. Joseph), Melanie Barnsdale (Police Force), Amanda Clark (Lloyds Bank), Stephen Beachus (Trainee Surveyor at Espley Tyas), Graham Dunbar (Trustee Savings Bank), Joanna Downes (Barclays Bank).

**Fifth Form Leavers:** Mark Freeman, David Scally, Alison Lancaster, Christine Taylor (Leamington College); Andrew Williams, Barbara Carey (O.N.D. Catering at S.W.C.F.E.); Peter Burgess (Catering); Daniel Statham (Royal Navy); Graham Cox (Engineering Cadet, Royal Fleet Auxiliary); Michael Randall (Junior Leaders Regiment, Queen's Division); David Gravestock (Engineering Apprentice); Jonathan Vaie, Andrew Walters (Agricultural Apprentices); Lynn Clarke (Nursing); Judith Williams (Banking); Toby Morris (Electrical Engineering Apprentice, Matthew Boulton College); Alex Lavender (Trainee Composer, Edward Fox & Son); Mandy Allen (A levels at Stratford-on-Avon High School); Clare Brewer (A levels at Bromsgrove School); Diana Jones (A levels at Abbey High School, Redditch).

## LATE NEWS

**Pupils:** Claire Jackson-Mee (Bio-chemistry at Hull), Gillian White (Mathematics at Dundee), Christopher Howarth (Pharmacology at Sunderland Polytechnic), David Woodhouse (Business Studies at Leeds Polytechnic), Christopher Tompkins (Zoology at Hull).

Congratulations to Janette Brewer, Sarah Wright, Lucinda Dale and Sally Sidaway on receiving their Queen's Guides Awards.

Congratulations to Alastair Rowley (Warks. Schools Swimming Team); Neil Edkins (South Warks. Soccer Team and U15 Rugby Team); Nigel Hood (Warks. U16 Badminton Team); and Iain Sinclair (South Warks. U16 Rugby Team).

## OLD SCHOLARS

### MARRIAGES

Roger GORLE to Susan PUGH (68-75).

P. A. WHINMILL to Elizabeth SEYMOUR (70-76).

William MILLS to Jayne SREEVES (68-72).

Paul DANCE to Trudy HILLMAN (71-76).

**BIRTH**

To Mr. and Mrs. D. MOULSON (née Jane Lamburn), a daughter,  
Rachel Jane.

**DEATHS**

Geoffrey Pollard BAYLIS (1915-23).  
Bertram DEVEY (aged 90).

**NEWS**

Graham Williams (65-70) is a commissioned officer in the Royal  
Air Force.

## SCHOOL REGISTER

### FAREWELL

Autumn Term 1978:

Alex Ogg (4M), Simon Gregory (L6W).

Spring Term 1978:

Sally Hodgkiss (4S), Susan Lamb (4S), Linda Watson (U6S), Belinda Young (U6W).

Summer Term 1978:

Jeannie Terver (L6W).

U6N: Dale Allen, Nicholas Forbes, Brian Freeman, Richard Heath, Michael Rich, Robert Sealey, Christopher Tompkins, Martin Woodger, Christine Beech, Frances Clack, Linda Farmery, Elizabeth Hadwen, Lesley Harris, Claire Jackson-Mee, Jan Read.

U6S: Michael Allen, Michael Burlton, Stephen Davies, Colin Foster, Christopher Hood, Nicholas Rapsin, David Woodhouse, David Peters, Melanie Barnsdale, Christine Baldwin, Amanda Clark, Mary Emerson, Ruth Lynam, Fiona Reeves, Alison Scott, Gillian White.

U6W: Steven Beachus, Clive Devey, Timothy Drew, Graham Dunbar, David Harrison, Christopher Howarth, Nigel Noaks, David Phillips, James Toseland, John Yapp, Sylvia Ashton, Christine Catherall, Joanna Downes, Julie Quiney, Debra Smith.

5M: David Akerman, Neil Burdett, Peter Burgess, Mark Freeman, Peter Hill, David Scally, Daniel Statham, Ian Watson, Andrew Williams, Barbara Carey, Alison Lancaster.

5S: Peter Allely, Stephen Bullingham, Timothy Cooke, Graham Cox, David Gravestock, Mark Lamb, Alex Lavender, Toby Morris, Richard Portman, Michael Randall, Ashley Smith, Jonathan Vale, Andrew Walters, Andrew Yapp, Mandy Allen, Lynn Clarke, Diana Jones, Christine Taylor, Julie Wall, Judith Williams.

### WELCOME

Spring Term 1978:

Joanna Howell (1M), Nicola Wells (2M), Susan McCarthy (2S), Sarah-Jane Plant (3M), Jane McCarthy (3S), Catherine Howell (4S).

Autumn Term 1978:

Jenny Harrison (2S, Greville H.S.), Susan Newell (2S, Macclesfield H.S.), Diane Retter (2M, Bidford H.S.).

Lower Sixth:

From Greville H.S.: Jane Glaze, Joanne Bateman.

From Studley H.S.: Linda Treadgold, Jennie Holland, Christopher Probert, Darren Cooper, Simon Greaves, Mark Shurmer.

From St. Benedict's H.S.: Jacqueline McAloon, Stella Fitzgerald, Patrick Seeney, Justin Wilks.

From Bidford H.S.: Nicola Filla.

From Henley-in-Arden H.S.: Julie Hinks.

From Prestwick Academy: Fiona Girvan.

From Ashford School, Kent: Jonathan Wright.

1M: Jonathan Archer, Anthony Brice, Robert Burchell, Christopher Dingle, Graham Farmer, William Feast, Jonathan Guest, Neil Hoare, John Holder, Robin Holland, Simon Jones, Robert Knight, Colin Martin, Richard McCarthy, Timothy Shaw, Mark Waldron, Adele Beard, Emma Clark, Susan Dawes, Madeleine Gauntlett, Sarah Geden, Sonia Harris, Martha Holmes, Mary Laughlin, Michaela Malin, Jane Moulson, Marina Partridge, Rebecca Thirtle-Watts, Mandy Watton, Helen Wilmot.

1S: Alan Baker, Andrew Buxton, Simon Crick, Jeremy Cuffe, Declan Gilroy, David Holloway, Trevor Humphrey, Iain King, James Leek, Gregory Mason, Ian Millard, Mark Monk-Terry, Clifford Moore, Jeremy Pickard, James Powell, Matthew Probert, Fiona Apsley, Louise Beaman, Sarah Diston, Wendy Dyer, Marianne George, Sarah Harris, Leila Khan, Fiona Lawrence, Alison Molloy, Julie Pugh, Lorna Skan, Trudie Smith, Lynn Tyrer, Jane Watton.